

Squannacook Greenways, Inc.

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

December 10, 2014

Attending:

Peter Carson, Peter Cunningham, Bruce Easom, Al Futterman, Ray Jackson, Don Klein, Steve Meehan, Cedwyn Morgan, Bill Rideout, Joan Wotkowicz

Guest: Linda Mack

Ideas for collaboration with Community Foundation of North Central Massachusetts

Linda Mack, Director of Gift Planning for the Community Foundation of North Central Massachusetts (CFNCM), explained the services CFNCM offers for both a construction fund and an endowment fund for future ongoing maintenance.

CFNCM manages and grows the funds. CFNCM thanks all donors and provides quarterly statements. People can donate online. Linda would advise us in fundraising. We would handle our own IRS forms.

Several meeting attendees spoke in favor of joining. CFNCM's credibility with donors is important and their investments have better return than our current account.

Bruce Easom made a motion to authorize the president and treasurer to sign a contract with CFNCM for collecting, disbursing, and accounting for rail trail capital campaign funds and transfer \$2,500 to start the fund, contingent on signing the MBTA rail lease. After discussion about whether we should wait for the lease, the motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

MBTA lease - developments / next steps

Steve Meehan spoke with Laura Kaplan about the status of the lease. Peter Cunningham contacted Mark Boyle's office and found out the lease is in the queue but is delayed by other leases. Mass Realty Group plans to conduct a property survey as part of addressing the encroachment issue in Townsend.

Discussion with Groton turtle conservation group

Bill Rideout discussed the rail trail with Darcy Donald, from a local group involved in turtle conservation. They are interested in working with us on ideas for using the rail trail as an educational forum.

Capital campaign planning

Joan Wotkowicz distributed a written estimate for design of a capital campaign flyer. Bruce Easom made a motion to authorize an expenditure not to exceed \$250 for rail trail brochure design by Julia Egan, Graphic Designer. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Financial report

The Treasurer reported our total assets are \$25,669.36.

Upcoming events

Two grant deadlines are pending but the timing may prevent us from responding. Applying for the CFNCM grant again does not make sense, since we have not yet made use of their previous grant award for kick starting our fundraising program. The DCR Trails grant has a February

deadline, so we may not be able to apply unless we have a signed lease by Christmas.

Review of meeting minutes

Bruce motioned to accept the minutes of November 5, 2014 meeting as corrected and re-distributed by the Clerk. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously with two abstentions.

Next Meeting

Squannacook Greenways will hold our next rail trail meeting on **Wednesday, January 14, 2015** at **7:00 P.M.** at the **NRWA**.

Respectfully submitted,

Joan Wotkowicz

Clerk

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